

# **FISCAL NOTE**

## **SB 2421 - HB 2598**

February 26, 2004

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Creates a mandatory minimum sentence of incarceration for simple possession and casual exchange of drugs. For a first offense, the offender would serve 48 hours in jail and for a second offense 45 days. The bill also provides that funds derived from fines collected from drug offenders and earmarked for the operation of drug courts may be used for the cost associated with serving these minimum mandatory sentences.

### **ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase Local Govt. Expenditures\* - \$5,430,900**

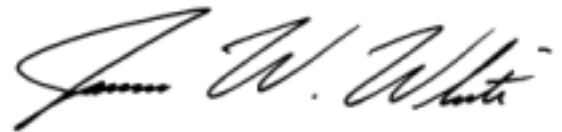
**Other Fiscal Impact -Authorizes use of \$826,000 in local government revenues currently earmarked for operation of Drug Courts to also be used for expenses associated with mandatory minimum sentences created by this bill.**

Estimate assumes approximately 8,000 first time misdemeanor drug offenders will serve a minimum of 48 hours in jail that are not currently serving jail time and 2,500 second time drug offenders will serve additional days in jail time that they are not currently serving.

*\*Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

### **CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James W. White, Executive Director

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